

BOOK REVIEWS

HOW TO KNOW THE IMMATURE INSECTS, by H. F. Chu, Zoologist, Institute of Zoology, National Academy of Peiping, Peiping, China. 1949. Cloth (\$3.00) or spiral (\$2.00), 234 pp., 601 figs., Wm. C. Brown Co., Dubuque, Iowa.

This book brings together in one volume most of the more important contributions to the study of immature insects. The introductory sections contain valuable suggestions for collecting and rearing larvae and pupae and for preserving them. Keys are presented which separate the immature stages to order. Keys to families of fifteen orders are given, based on larval or nymphal characters and on pupal characters in so far as this information was available. Pictured-keys have much in their favor and have been used to advantage in this work. However many of the illustrations are habitus figures (very few of which are original although usually redrawn without indication of source), which are not ordinarily suitable for displaying details used in keys. It will be wise to use the keys with caution. Serious errors such as the placing of the *Psoini* in the *Lyctidae* and *Myochrous* (at least by inference) in the *Chrysomelinae* are noted. The more important references to papers on immature insects are listed and will be of interest to those making a serious study of insect taxonomy. The book is recommended for use by those studying or teaching courses on immature insects, the importance of which is becoming increasingly apparent. The volume forms the tenth in the Pictured-Key Nature Series edited and copyrighted by Dr. H. E. Jacques, Department of Biology, Iowa Wesleyan College.

By W. H. ANDERSON

HOW TO KNOW THE INSECTS, (Revised edition), by H. E. Jaques, Wm. C. Brown Co., Dubuque, Iowa, 1947, 205 pp., 411 figs., cloth or spiral binding (\$2.50 and \$1.50).

This is part of the Pictured-Key Nature books edited by Professor Jaques. An interesting, fully illustrated book for the beginner, with keys to families and an introduction to methods of collecting, mounting and maintaining an insect collection; it is highly recommended for those who wish to get started in the study of insects. It is mentioned here for the benefit of those readers of the Bulletin who, though specializing in Coleoptera, are beginners and wish a handy reference to other groups of insects and technique fundamentals.

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